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Preliminary Amendment dated December 2, 2003

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Applicant(s): Kitisri Sukhapinda et al.

Serial No. 09/358,321

Group Art Unit: 1638

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Examiner: Collins, Cynthia E.

Attorney Docket No.: 50,447

For: ANTIBODY-MEDIATED DOWN-REGULATION OF PLANT PROTEINS

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below

December 2, 2003
DateBy Marcia R. Jansen
Marcia R. JansenMail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the claims as detailed hereinafter prior to examination pursuant to 37 CFR §1.114(d).

Amendment to the Claims:

Applicant requests Examiner to cancel all pending claims (1-6, 8, 9, 12 and 13) and to enter new claims 24-26 as show in the Listing of Claims below.

Listing of Claims:

24. (New) A plant cell in which the steady-state level of maize stearoyl-ACP Δ -9 desaturase is down-regulated, comprising a nucleic acid construct which comprises in the 5' to 3' direction of transcription a promoter functional in a plant cell, SEQ ID NO:31, and a termination region functional in a plant cell wherein said construct expresses SEQ ID NO:32 in said plant cell such that SEQ ID NO:32 binds to maize stearoyl-ACP Δ -9 desaturase transit peptide resulting in the down-regulation of the steady-state level of maize stearoyl-ACP Δ -9 desaturase in said plant cell.

25. (New) The nucleic acid construct of Claim 24.

26. (New) A plant or progeny thereof obtained from the plant cell of Claim 14.

50,447

Page 1 of 2